서문다미 3

RURE
루어

Rubric 3

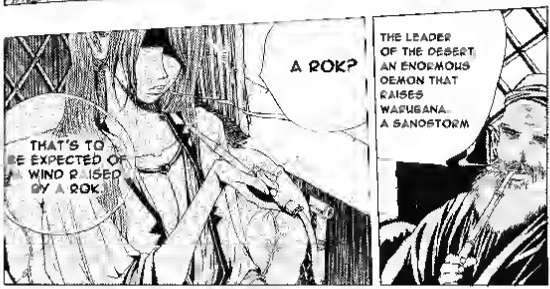
Long ago,

The world belonged to the demons

The Spirit King granted a single drop of [Ru] and the once corrupt world was filled with animals and vegetation

The Spirit King declared, 'Since everything originated from this single drop of [Ru] may this blessed land be named [Rudimna].'

- Song of Water; The Fables of Manakus -


A ROK?
THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED OF A WIND RAISED BY A ROK.
THE LEADER OF THE DESERT, AN ENORMOUS DEMON THAT RAISES WAHUBANA... A SANDSTORM

OH? IF IT'S AS ENORMOUS AS YOU CLAIM I SHOULD LIKE TO SEE IT ONCE
HAHA~ YOUR MAJESTY HAD BETTER GIVE UP ON THAT FANCY BEFORE A ROK. BOTH MAGIC AND MIGHT ARE USELESS
A ROK IS THE DESERT ITSELF
IT IS THE WIND OF DESTINY

T/N HAHA...THE THING ABOVE IS A HOOKAH

SFX: SULK
I HAD A BAD FEELING RIGHT FROM THE START! A BEING PREDETERMINED TO BE BUKAI-LAM KARAM SIGHTSEEING A VULGAR EVENT LIKE A SAWAKA! YET I STILL PLAYED THE FAITHFUL SERVANTAND GOT A GOOD SEAT FOR YOU!!
BUT THAT FILTHY SHOP! WITH A SUSPICIOUS OLD MAN! SMOKING A HOOKAH!! GOOD GRIEF!! IF THE HIGH MASTER FINDS OUT! OH! I PLEAD TO YOU, INMUTE*!
WOW, AREN'T YOU THE THIRSTY YOUNG WOMAN-
*INMUTE IS THE GOD OF WIND AND SAILING
*KAAM IS THE TITLE OF THE NOBLE RULING CLAN
SO, DID YOU MEET THE RUKIA?

NOT AT ALL - I HAVEN'T SEEN SO MUCH AS A HAIR.
SHE'S PRACTICALLY GUARDED BY A STEEL CAGE. WELL, SHE'S A RUKIA, SO THEIR CAUTION IS UNDER-STANDABLE...
HMM I GUESS ABDUCTION IS THE ONLY WAY LEFT?
BUT I DID SPOT AN UNEXPECTED INDIVIDUAL
THAT RUKIA WAS WITH THE [NURAN'S RAI-KUN]

...WHAT DID YOU SAY?
SFX: CHEERING

AAAND IT'S HERE! CITIZENS OF WAKA, THE MOMENT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!!
SFX: ROAR
THE LONG-AWAITED BATTLE OF THE CENTURY THE BATTLE ROYALE TO DECIDE THE ULTIMATE VICTOR FROM BEST WARRIORS OF WAKA!!
WE PRESENT THE SAWAKA!!
SFX CHEERING NOISES

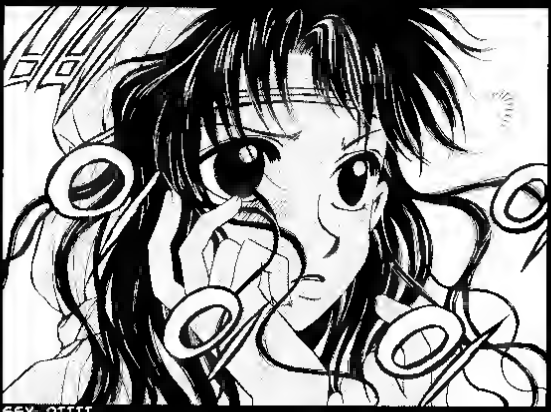
NOW! COME OUT! THE LAST ONE STANDING WILL WIN THIS MATCH! HURRY AND GET READY!!
HM MELEE, IS IT? ALL THE BETTER FOR ME
IS IT YOU? THE ONE WHO USED TO BE A MERCENARY
SFX STRETCH
OUR MASTER WAS QUITE WORRIED. YOU KNOW IT WAS QUITE NOISY BEFORE YOU CAME IN WELL. GOOD LUCK ANYWAYS
BECAUSE IN THE END, I'LL BE THE WINNER

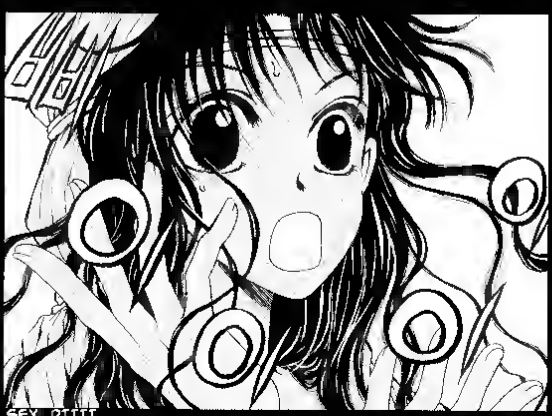
CHU
LAC
E
WHATEVER YOU LIKE!
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN WINNING!
HH
LET'S GO ALREADY!!
SFX: CHEER NO SOUNDS

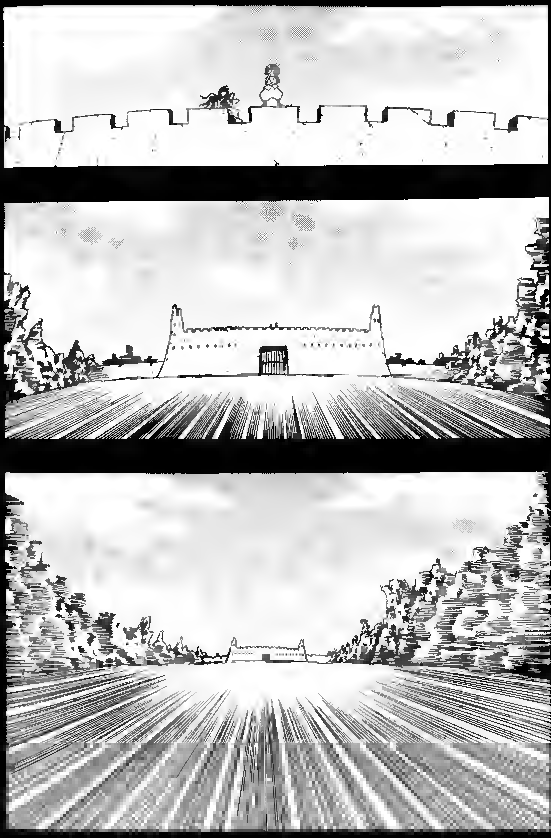
I'M LEAVING THIS IN YOUR HANDS! CHIAKI!!
A-ALRIGHT!
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THE LAST TIME I'VE DONE THIS, SO I DON'T KNOW HOW IT'LL GO BUT I'M GOING FOR IT!!
HE HEM HEM
UWAH- WHAT A WIND~
CHIAKI! HURRY AND DO IT!! THEY'VE ALREADY STARTED THE MATCH!!

HUAH
SFX: BREATH IN
SFX: PIIIIIIIIII (HIGH PITCHED WHISTLING)
SFX: PIIIII (HIGH PITCHED WHISTLING)

SFX: PIIIIIIIIIIIIII
CHIAKI?
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?


SFX PIIII


SFX PIIII

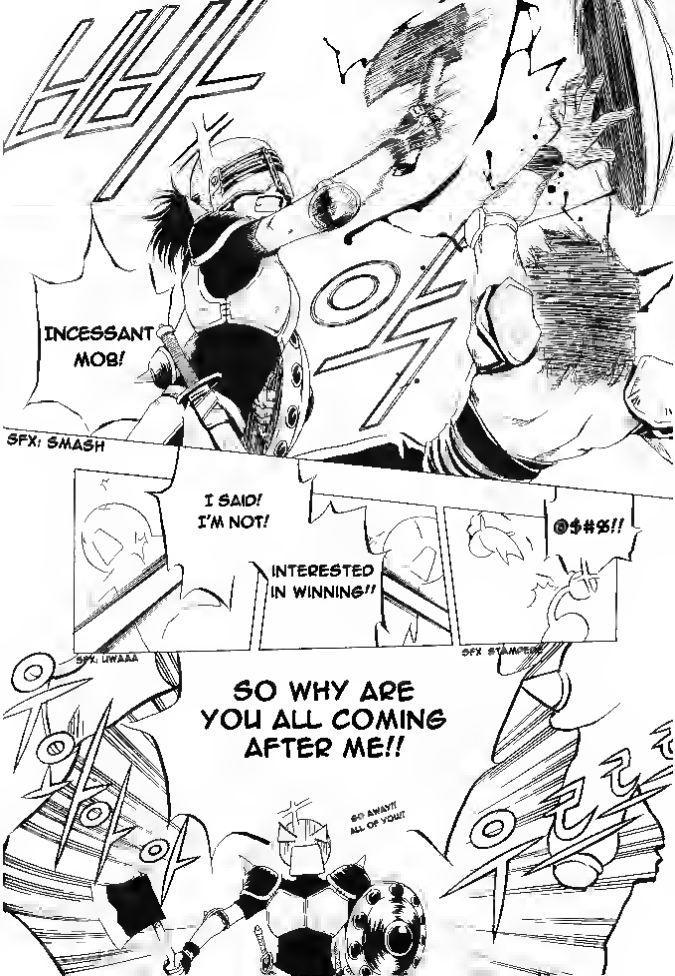


!!
IT CAME!!
IT CAME!!
IT REALLY
CAME!!!
SFX: KUAAAA (ROAAR)

MASTER!! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? LORD ZAITSU!!
WHAT'S WRONG? LORD ZAITSU!!
Rai-Kun! He's here? With a rukia?! Oh god! This is no small matter!
Are you going to spread your wings once again? Young Rai-Kun!!

The fall of my father
Rure 3
And the bloodshed among my brothers will be inevitable?
"That insolent! Rai Kun, we beseech you behead this man at once!"
"—Leave him. He's surprisingly honest, is he not?"
"Nothing for it, you say?"
"Speak, impertinent emissary of Sukai-Lam."
"Since you brought it up, you must have a solution in mind as well.—"
"Speak, emissary."

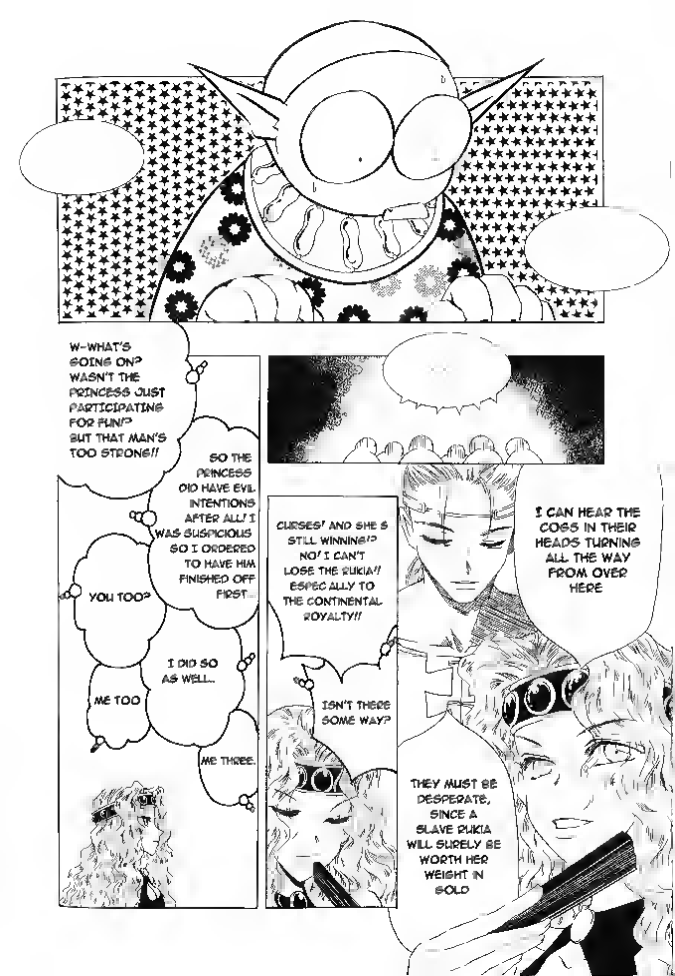
Before I strike your neck in place of this [inevitability]
DAMN IT!!


HH
INCESSANT MOB!
SFX: SMASH
I SAID! I'M NOT!
INTERESTED IN WINNING!!
@$#%!!
SFX: UWAAA
SFX: STAMPEDE
SO WHY ARE YOU ALL COMING AFTER ME!!
GO AWAY!! ALL OF YOU!!

ISN'T KUYA A BIT TOO STRONG?
AT THE RATE IT'S GOING, HE'LL REALLY WIN
SFX: PUNCH, BAM
An escape plan may not be necessary after all.
THIS HAS BECOME TROUBLE-SOME
EVEN IF HE WINS, IT WILL ONLY BENEFIT PRINCESS AZUS
YANOK!

WELL, IT'S PROBABLY A NATURAL HABIT HE PICKED UP AS A WARRIOR...
ONLY BENEFIT THE PRINCESS? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IF HE WINS, WEREN'T WE ALL GOING TO BE PARDONED?
EVEN IF KUYA WINS, THE PRINCESS HAS THE AUTHORITY OF THE WINNER. THE PRINCESS MAY HAVE PROMISED, BUT YOU'RE A RUKIA, RIGHT? SO IF SHE PENNIES ON THE PROMISE, YOU WILL BECOME THE PRINCESS' SLAVE. SO EVEN IF HE WINS, IT'S STILL A LOSS
IN THE END, THERE'S NO OTHER OPTION THAN ESCAPING.

SFX SWIPE
SFX CLANG
CHE


W-WHAT'S GOING ON? WASN'T THE PRINCESS JUST PARTICIPATING FOR FUN!? BUT THAT MAN'S TOO STRONG!!
SO THE PRINCESS DID HAVE EVIL INTENTIONS AFTER ALL! I WAS SUSPICIOUS SO I ORDERED TO HAVE HIM FINISHED OFF FIRST...
YOU TOO?
I DID SO AS WELL...
ME TOO
ME THREE.
CURSES! AND SHE'S STILL WINNING!? NO! I CAN'T LOSE THE RUKIA!! ESPECALLY TO THE CONTINENTAL ROYALTY!!
ISN'T THERE SOME WAY?
I CAN HEAR THE COGS IN THEIR HEADS TURNING ALL THE WAY FROM OVER HERE
THEY MUST BE DESPERATE, SINCE A SLAVE RUKIA WILL SURELY BE WORTH HER WEIGHT IN GOLD

I'VE FELT IT BEFORE. BUT THAT LEVEL OF SKILL IS NOT ONE MERELY ACQUIRED BY DOING REGULAR MERCENARY WORK. AND HE OWNS A SLAVE. RUKIA. JUST WHAT IS HIS IDENTITY?
BUT THAT MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF KUYA. HE SEEMS MORE EXTRAORDINARY THE MORE I LOOK AT HIM. IS HE TRULY A FORMER MERCENARY?
?

WHAT'S THAT? SOMETHING'S FLYING OVER HERE
ISN'T IT A BIRD?
NO, I DON'T THINK IT'S A BIRD
SFX: MUCHMUCH XD
WHAT IS IT? IT'S QUITE BIG. ISN'T IT?
AH, IT'S COMING OVER HERE!!
AH...!!
IT'S HERE.

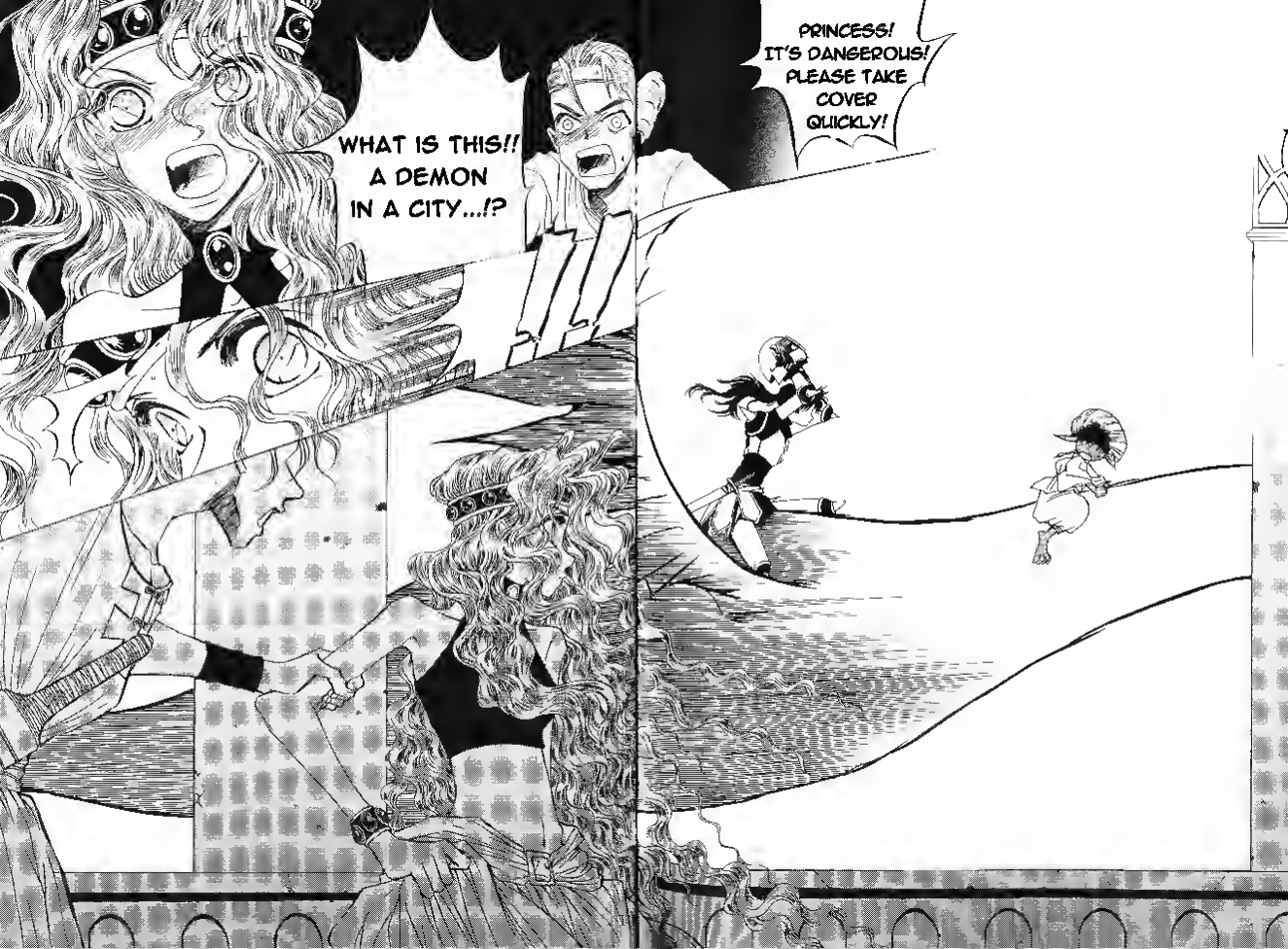
DE...
DEMON...!!
A DEMON
HAS
APPEARED!!!

I DON'T HAVE WINGS LIKE YOU! YES SLOWLY! LIKE THAT!!
SFX: KYAAAAA! (SCREAM)
W-WAIT! IT'S TOO FAST! UWAA!! SLOWLY!! SLOWLY!!
SFX: WIND BLOWING

WHAT ARE THE TROOPS DOING? SHOOT THAT DEMON NOW! ESCORT THE NOBLES AND EVACUATE THE COMMONERS!!
CALMLY!! HURRY!! MOVE NOW!!
SFX KYAAAAK (SCREAMING)
DAMNIT!! IN WAKA!! A DEMON IN MY CITY!!
COME DOWN ALREADY!! CHIAKI!!
MAYOR!! QUICKLY, EVACUATE! IT'S DANGEROUS!
CHIAKI!! OVER HERE!! I'M HERE!!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BLESSING OF THE TEMPLES!
SFX: KIIAK (YELL)
KIIYA!
CHIAKI!!

IT WORKED!!
KUK!!
SFX SNAP
CHIAKI! FIND HARU!!
ROGER!!

!!
KUYA?
KUYA!!
YOU
DARE-!?


WHAT IS THIS!! A DEMON IN A CITY...!?
PRINCESS! IT'S DANGEROUS! PLEASE TAKE COVER QUICKLY!

OUR AGREEMENT IS OVER!!
PRINCESS AZUS!!
YOU...!!
I TAKE BACK WHAT'S MINE WITH MY OWN POWER!
SO YOU SHOULD GO YOUR OWN MERRY WAY AS WELL!
SFX: AHAHAHA
LET'S NEVER MEET AGAIN!!
KUYA!! YOU INSOLENT!!

WELL WELL. THEY'VE REALLY PULLED ONE OVER ON US
PARDON?
WHERE HE HAILS FROM, WHAT HE DOES, GET HIS WEAKNESS EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO SHAKE HIM OUT LIKE A DUSTY CARPET!!
...YOKAM! SEND PURSUERS AFTER HIM!
AT THIS POINT, IT'S A MATTER OF PRIDE! JUST YOU WAIT KUYA, I'LL DEFINITELY MAKE YOU MY SUBORDINATE!!
HMPH!!
WHY DON'T YOU PUT OUT THE IMMEDIATE FIRE FIRST?
SFX STAMPEDE!
PRINCESS! JUST WHAT IS GOING ON!? THE MAN IN CONTROL OF THE DEMON IS YOUR SUBORDINATE!!
WAS IT UNDER YOUR ORDERS? HOW ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS?
EXPLAIN TO US!!

UWAA!! D-DEMON!! DEMON!!
AWESOME YOU TOOK HIM OUT WITH A SINGLE BLOW
IS THIS IT?
SFX SNEAK
SFX SASH
SFX THUMP
RIGHT! HARU, NOW'S THE TIME! HURRY AND ESCAPE!! I'LL STOP THEM!
BESIDES, DIDN'T YOU SAY YOUR YOUNGER SISER HAS TO RIDE TOO? DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, JUST GO!
YANOK
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I'LL BE FINE I'VE GOT MY BROTHER SO IT'LL WORK OUT SOME-HOW
DON'T FEEL GUILTY THIS IS JUST THE WAY THE BLUE MOON CLAN REPAYS ITS DEBTS
DON'T BE LIKE THAT, WE CAN ESCAPE TOGETHER!!
THAT WON'T WORK - THAT DEMON CAN ONLY CARRY 4 PEOPLE

THAT DAY - IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, I PROBABLY WOULD'VE DIED AT THE MATCH BECAUSE I HAD NO WILL LEFT TO LIVE -
AFTER THAT I WAS REALLY HAPPY WHEN YOU SAID YOU TRUSTED ME
IT'S THANKS TO YOU, THAT MY LIFE -
SO...

THANK YOU, YANOK -
I'LL NEVER FORGET YOUR KINDNESS
YOU'RE THE FIRST FRIEND I EVER MADE HERE
THANK YOU SO MUCH - !!

LATER... LATER, I'LL DEFINITELY GO LOOK FOR YOU!
...HARU!
WILL YOU GREET ME THEN, JUST LIKE NOW?!
OF COURSE!! DON'T YOU KNOW BY NOW HOW MUCH I LIKE YOU!

LET'S DEFINITELY MEET AGAIN, YANOK!
WEREN'T YOU GOING TO GO WITH HER?
. LATER

WHEN I GROW UP A LITTLE MORE, I'LL GO AFTER HER THEN.

HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO FIND HARU IN THIS CROWD!? AND DEMON CONTROL IS SO TIRING...
CHIAK!!! DRIVE PROPERLY! I FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO HURL!! HURRY UP AND FIND HARU!!!
HEY YOU, WHY DO YOU THINK WE STARTED THIS? IF WE CAN'T RESCUE HARU, WE'RE MISSING THE WHOLE POINT!"
MASTER!!

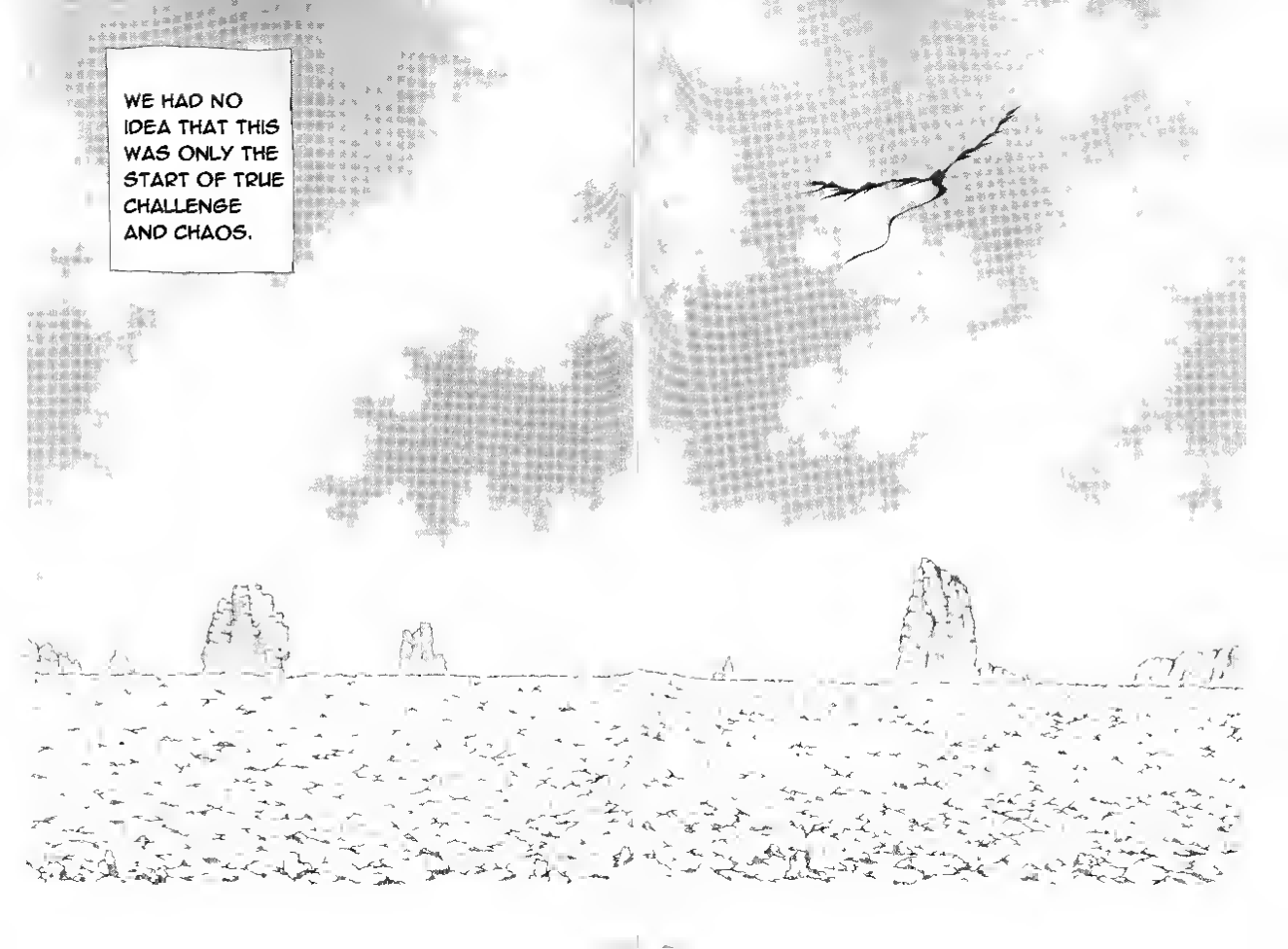
Haru...?
SFX. LEAD

SQUAK
MASTER! IT'S MASTER KUYA!! MY REAL MASTER'S SMELL!!
UWAAH! WHAT IS THIS! CAN'T YOU APPEAR MORE QUIETLY?
SFX: THUD
Ba du pm
"SOB" I'VE MISSED YOU!! MASTER! I WAS SO SCARED! WHY DID YOU COME SO LATE?

WOW! DID CHAKI CALL THIS DEMON? AWESOME! SO WE'RE RIDING THIS BACK TO THE CARAVAN?
I WANT TO SEE MIDU AND MD RUKA AND HATSU THE OTHERS ARE FINE RIGHT?
Haru hasn't changed at all, has he?

Though it must have been hard

YES! LET'S GO BACK! THE DESTINATION IS SHUSAS CARAVAN!! WE'RE FINALLY GOING BACK!!
IN THE FUTURE, IT WAS REFERRED TO AS THE FIRST ACT OF THE GREAT DESERT KING, THE WAKA ESCAPE INCIDENT.


WE HAD NO IDEA THAT THIS WAS ONLY THE START OF TRUE CHALLENGE AND CHAOS.

A distant destination.
SFX (FOR ABOVE AND BELOW): CLOP X4
The scorching sun
The water has already dried out.

SFX: WHUMP

MIRU!!

IT'S EXHAUSTION SHE HAD A WEAK CONSTITUTION IN THE FIRST PLACE AND IT'S BEEN PUSHED TO THE LIMIT ON THIS TREK. WE HAVE TO FEED HER A SIP OF SALT WATER AND LET HER REST IN THE SHADE
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE
WE HAVE TO STOP THE TREK

WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE HERE
WE WILL CONTINUE

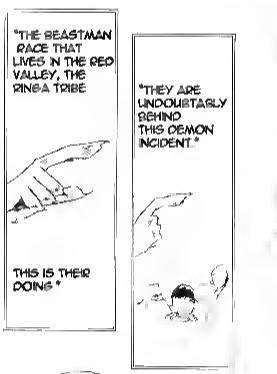
MIRU, NO!!
NO, LORD KUYA I CAN MOVE
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? MIRU NEEDS TO REST!!
MIRU SHIN. ARE YOU REALLY UNABLE TO MOVE?
. THEN WE WILL CONTINUE
SFX: NEIGH

SORRY IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME, WE WOULDN'T'VE HAD TO GO THROUGH ALL THIS
DON'T BE STUPID THIS ISN'T ANYONE'S FAULT THINGS JUST TURNED OUT THIS WAY! I'LL GET ANGRY AT YOU IF YOU BLAME YOURSELF
THAT'S RIGHT.. WHO WOULD'VE KNOWN...
YAY! WE'VE ARRIVED AT LAST!

AFTER WE CROSS THAT MOUTAIN RANGE... WE'LL ARRIVE AT THE VILLAGE OF MY RINGA TRIBE
AAH... FINALLY RETURNING, EH? EVERYBODY MUST BE WORRIED.
EVERYTHING ELSE IS FINE, BUT F...ST THINGS FIRST... I WANT TO REST... AND I'M HUNGRY...
TSK. YOU'RE COMPLETELY OUT OF IT.
HAHA. DON'T WORRY! THEY'LL SURELY BE WAITING FOR US WITH TONS OF TASTY FOOD!
SFX. CLANG

ALANNA. CHIAKI -
WE HEREBY ARREST YOU AS ONE OF THE MAIN PERPETRATORS OF THE MAYHEM THAT TOOK PLACE AT WAKA.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? A CRIMINAL? CHIAKI? RELEASE HIM!!
OUTSIDERS!? I'M CHIAKI'S FRIEND!!
CHIEF! THE INCIDENT AT WAKA WAS CAUSED BY MY FRIENDS AND ME!
IF IT'S ABOUT THE COMMOTION AT WAKA, IT'S BECAUSE OF ME! IF YOU'RE GOING TO ARREST ANYONE, ARREST ME! IT'S NOT CHIAKI'S FAULT!!
STAND ASIDE, OUTSIDERS! THIS MATTER IS TO BE DEALT WITH WITHIN OUR TRIBE.
HARU

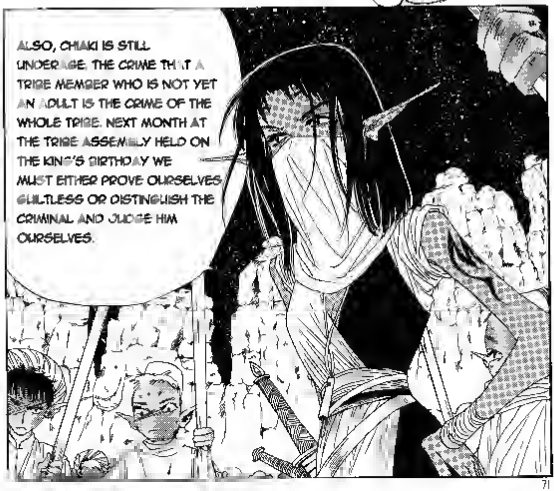
CHIAK! ONLY HELPED US A BIT AND HE BEARS NO RESPONSIBILITY WHATSOEVER! IT'S WRONG TO ARREST CHIAK!
THERE WAS A CHARGE FROM WAKA.


"THE BEASTMAN RACE THAT LIVES IN THE RED VALLEY, THE RINEA TRIBE
THIS IS THEIR DOING."
"THEY ARE UNDOUBTABLY BEHIND THIS DEMON INCIDENT."

HEH, THEN...
IT'S A PROMISE!

WE HEARD THAT MAN WAS OF THE SAME BEASTMAN RACE AS US AND THE SERVANT OF A HIGH CLASS NOBLE FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY. DOES ANYONE COME TO MIND, MERCENARY KUYA?

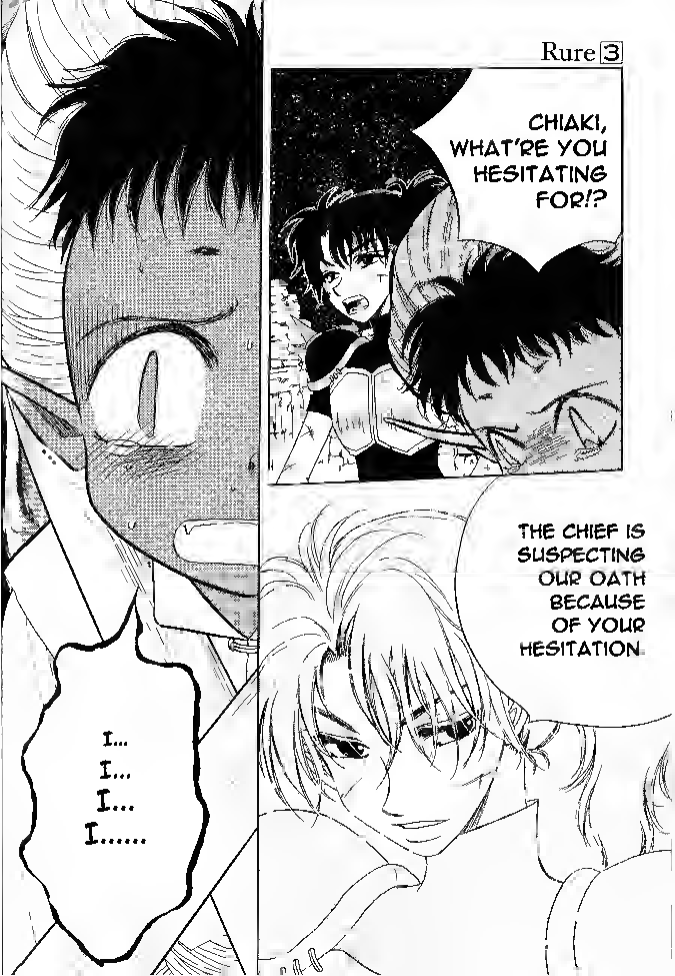
PRINCESS AZUS
AMONG THE PRINCESS' BODYGUARDS THERE WAS A MAN OF THE HUMANIMAL* TRIBE
WHAT? THEN, "
THEY'VE PULLED ONE OVER ON US
*"HUMANIMAL" IS THE MASHUP OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL. THOUGHT IT SOUNDED COOLER


ALSO, CHIAKI IS STILL UNDERAGE. THE CRIME THAT A TRIBE MEMBER WHO IS NOT YET AN ADULT IS THE CRIME OF THE WHOLE TRIBE. NEXT MONTH AT THE TRIBE ASSEMBLY HELD ON THE KING'S BIRTHDAY WE MUST EITHER PROVE OURSELVES GUILTLESS OR DISTINGUISH THE CRIMINAL AND JUDGE HIM OURSELVES.

IT IS CLEAR THAT CHIAKI COMMITTED A CRIME. SO HE WILL PROBABLY RECEIVE THE DEATH PENALTY AND WE, THE RINGA TRIBE, WILL HAVE TO PAY A HEAVY PRICE TO COMPENSATE FOR HIS CRIME
KUYA, UP TILL NOW, I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE HELP FROM YOUR GROUP OF MERCENARIES YOU HAVE SAVED MY LIFE MANY TIMES PERSONALLY. YOU ALL ARE STILL MY SAVIORS
BUT AS THE LEADER OF THIS TRIBE, I MUST ASK YOU ALL TO LEAVE OUR LANDS.
...SORRY, BUT I REFUSE
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING FAREWELL, KUYA.

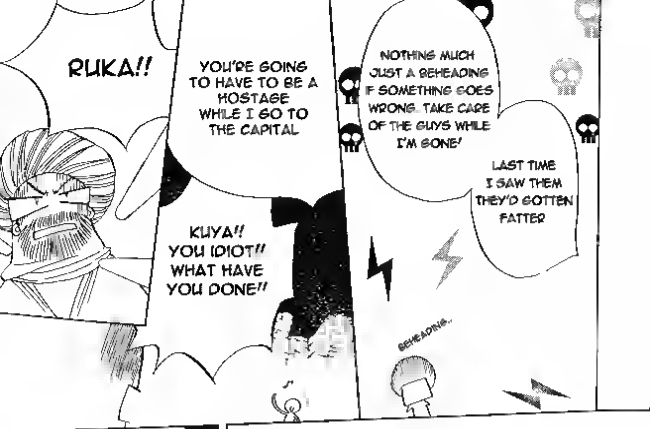
THIS IS NO LONGER OF YOUR CONCERN.
CHIAKI HAS SWORN THE "KUNCHARA'S OATH" TO ME
KUYA!! YOU'VE FINALLY RETURNED!!

OH!! HARU!! YOU'RE REALLY SAFE! WHAT A RELIEF! MISS MIRU SEEMS HEALTHY TOO! WHAT A RELIEF!
I'M BACK
IS THIS TRUE, CHIAKI?
MR. RUKA!! I'VE MISSED YOU!!
HAVE YOU REALLY SWORN THE "KUNCHARA'S OATH" TO MERCENARY KUYA?


CHIAKI, WHAT'RE YOU HESITATING FOR!?
THE CHIEF IS SUSPECTING OUR OATH BECAUSE OF YOUR HESITATION.
I... I... I... I.....

I DID SWEAR...
Kuya...
Y-YES...

SFX SHIING
SFX CLACK
HUH? WH- WHAT!!
VERY WELL, MERCENARY KUYA UNTIL YOU HAVE SETTLED THIS MATTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE KUNCHARA'S OATH THE SHUSAS CARAVAN WILL REMAIN THE RINGA TRIBE'S HOSTAGES. THEIR FATE WILL HINGE ON THE OUTCOME OF THIS MATTER.
WHAT!! KUNCHARA'S OATH!? KUYA!!
ON THE CONTRARY, I'M THANKFUL, CHIEF MY FRIENDS HERE ARE QUITE THE GLUTTONS DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU WHEN YOUR STORAGES ARE EMPTY,


RUKA!!
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BE A HOSTAGE WHILE I GO TO THE CAPITAL
KUYA!! YOU IDIOT!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE!!
NOTHING MUCH JUST A BEHEADING IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG. TAKE CARE OF THE GUYS WHILE I'M GONE!
LAST TIME I SAW THEM THEY'D GOTTEN FATTER
BEHEADING...

MR. RUKA! WHAT'S HAPPENING? AND WHAT'S THE KUNCHARA'S OATH?
GOOD LORD THAT GUY ALWAYS ACTED ON IMPULSE, BUT KUNCHARA... I'M AT A LOSS FOR WORDS

KUNCHARA.
SOVEREIGN OF THE SOUL.
REGARDLESS OF
RANK AND STATUS

AN OATH MADE
TO A GOD-LIKE HUMAN
PROMISING THE GREATEST
RESPECT AND OBEDIANCE

THE ONE SERVING
THE KUNCHARA IS CALLED
[ZARU-ONE WHO SERVES]

ZARU LIVE THEIR WHOLE LIVES LIVING FOR AND OBEYING THE KUNCHARA.

ON THE OTHER HAND, KUNCHARA, IN EXCHANGE FOR UNCONDITIONAL OBEDIENCE, BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ZARU'S ACTIONS

THAT IS THE KUNCHARA'S OATH

OI ~
GUYS ~
THAT MEANS AS SOVEREIGN OF CHIAKI'S SOUL, KUYA HAS TAKEN ON THE BURDEN OF CHIAKI'S CRIME IN CHIAKI'S STEAD

IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE WITHOUT RESTING. POOR US ONLY YOU GUYS ARE ALLOWED AS COcompanions, stingy people
SORRY BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO SUFFER ALONG WITH ME

CHIAKI. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I BID YOU LOWER YOUR SPEECH', KUNCHARA.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THIS FAR EVERYBODY, INCLUDING THE CHIEF, KNOWS THAT THE OATH IS FAKE YOU DON'T HAVE TO ACT ANYMORE
..THIS IS NOT AN ACT YOU HAVE JUST SAVED MY LIFE ALLOW ME TO SERVE YOU AS KUNCHARA.
..CHIAKI? ISN'T THIS TAKING THE JOKE TOO FAR?

80 *TAN TO LOWER ONE'S SPEECH IS TO TALK LIKE ONE WOULD TALK TO A SLAVE.

SFX SLICE

SFX: THUD
SFX: TIME
HE'S BULLYING HE'S BULLYING
THAT'S DEFINITELY A PROTEST
IT SEEMS LIKE IT, EH?
HMH
THAT'S ONE VIOLENT ATMOSPHERE, KUYA

TRUTHFULLY, I UNDERSTAND KUYA SOMETHING DONE TO SAVE A GOOD FRIEND LOST HIM THE FRIENDSHIP INSTEAD? IF IT WERE ME, I WOULD HAVE CRIED
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO BEING FRIENDS?
CHIAKI, I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE GRATEFUL, BUT IF YOU'RE REALLY THINKING OF KUYA'S FEELINGS, STOP CALLING HIM KUNCHARA YOU GUYS ARE FRIENDS, RIGHT?

I KNOW TOO IF I GO BACK TO CALLING HIM KUYA HE'LL BE HAPPY BECAUSE HE'S THAT TYPE OF PERSON.
IT'S FINE EVEN IF IT'S THE FOOLISH OPINION OF A MEMBER OF THE BEASTMAN RACE.
IT'S POSSIBLE TO MISTAKE KINDNESS BECAUSE OF LONGING
BUT THAT DAY, THE DAY THAT KUNCHARA DEFENDED ME, I SAW IT.
BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW
THE IMAGE OF A KING.
THAT I WOULD SEE THE IMAGE OF A KING FROM A PERSON WHOM I ONCE CONSIDERED A COMRADE AND FRIEND

I'M SORRY TO KUYA BUT ONCE I FELT A KING'S PRESENCE FROM HIM, I NO LONGER DARED BECOME FRIENDS WITH KUNCHARA. BECAUSE HE IS THE PERSON WHOM I MUST SERVE FROM NOW ON.
두근
두근

SFX CLOP X3

IT'S FINE WE'LL ARRIVE AT AN AQUA BUS SOON
AQUA BUS?
THAT'S RIGHT AQUA BUGS ARE BIG AND BEATIFUL AND THEY HAVE LOTS OF WATER IT'S THE SOLE OASIS ON THE WAY TO PAIPU. BUT IT'S ALSO VERY DANGEROUS IT'S A NEST OF DEMONS
OH?
IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. AFTER ALL, IT'S MY THOUGHTS, IT'S ENOUGH IF YOU JUST STAY AT KINGHARA'S SIDE.
FOR ME, IT'S HARD TO UNDERSTAND AN OPINION LIKE THAT
BUT WHEN WILL THIS ROAD END? WE'VE RUN OUT OF WATER..
WE'VE ARRIVED..
@TUMBLR XD

THE AQUA BUG, RUMANYA -
THE LARGEST [BUG] ON THE EARTH.

.....
.....
...GOOD GOD,
DON'T TELL ME THIS IS THAT BUG'S STOMACH?

...AMAZING... I DIDN'T EVEN IMAGINE THAT THERE'D BE A PLACE LIKE THIS IN THE WORLD...
HARU
WE'RE CAMPING HERE TONIGHT!

CHIAKI, YOU LIGHT THE FIRE AND CHASE THE DEMONS AWAY WITH THE SMELL. AND THERE'S A LIGHT POISON IN RUMANYA'S WATER.
THE WATER'S FINE TO WASH IN, BUT MAKE SURE TO PURIFY IT BEFORE YOU DRINK IT.
...YOU SAID THAT WE'RE INSIDE A BUG. IS IT REALLY OKAY TO LIGHT A FIRE?
IT'S ALRIGHT. THEY CALL IT A BUG, BUT IT'S LIKE AN ENORMOUS CAVE. AND A FIRE IS NECESSARY TO KEEP DEMONS AT BAY.
...IS THIS REALLY A BUG?
UH-HUH IT MOVES IT MOVES A FEW INCHES YEAR'
ERK!!
RUMANYA, ALONG WITH THE ROK, ARE THE BIGGEST CREATURES THAT EXIST IN THE DESERT.
THE SKY'S ROK, THE GROUND'S RUMANYA.
NOBODY KNOWS WHERE THEY GO OR WHAT THEY EAT.
THEY'VE LIVED LONGER THAT MY GRANDFATHER'S GRANDFATHER'S GRANDFATHER.
THEY PROVIDE WATER AND SHELTER, BUT CONVERSELY DON'T REQUIRE IT.
SO DESERT TRAVELERS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR OWN RELIGION, ALL VIEW THE RUMANYA AS A DESERT GOD.
THE GREATEST AND WISEST CREATURE

PLACING THAT SAME RESPECT, WE SOMETIMES REFER TO SAGES AS PUNDITS.
AWESOME! CHIAKI, YOU'RE VERY SCHOLARLY, AREN'T YOU? YOU'RE LIKE A PROFESSOR!
EHEHEH. ANYBODY THAT TRAVELS THE DESERT KNOWS THIS STUFF
Tum
I'M GOING TO CHECK OUT THE VICINITY
SFX: STEP STEP
AS EXPECTED..
I'M BEING COMPLETELY IGNORED..
SFX: SIGH
CHIAKI...

WELL, NOTHING FOR IT, I SUPPOSE. LET'S EAT FOR NOW!
SECONDED! I'M FAMISHED!
WHAT A GOOD GUY... I WISH HE AND KUIYA WOULD JUST MAKE UP ALREADY.
ZZZZ
ZZZZ
ZZ
FIRE FLIES?

UNNYA... CAN'T EAT ANYMORE...
FASCI-NATING.
IT FEELS LIKE I'M BACK HOME.
TO THINK THAT FIREFLIES EXIST IN THIS WORLD AS WELL. BACK AT LAST ISLAND, THERE WERE LOTS OF FIREFLIES TOO.

EVERYBODY MUST BE SAD. WE GOT SWEPT AWAY BY THE STORM AND VANISHED, SO THEY MUST GIVEN US UP FOR DEAD. I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A WAY TO GO BACK, SO I MIGHT AS WELL BE DEAD TO THEM.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE MY BROTHERS AND FRIENDS SAD
THAT'S PROBABLY BETTER THAN HAVING TO SEE THEIR WORRIED FACES

...LIAR.

YOU DON'T ACTUALLY WANT THEM TO GIVE UP HOPE. YOU'RE HOPING THAT THEY'LL LEAVE YOUR ROOM AND BELONGINGS INTACT, REMEMBERING AND WAITING FOR YOU.

I FEEL LIKE THAT'S THE ONLY WAY FOR ME TO GO BACK...

SFX: STEP
SOUNDS OF WATER...?
SFX: SPLISH
WHOA-! AMAZING!!
A LAKE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!!

I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MUCH WATER IN ONE PLACE SINCE I CAME TO THIS WORLD!
UWAA~ WHAT A NICE SIGHT!
IT'S REALLY COOL
YAHOO!!
SFX SPLOOSH
GRIN

PUHA
SPLASH
SPLASH
SOMEHOW, IT FEELS LIKE A LUXURY♡ SO HAPPY♡
HEHEH.. JUST WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME I'VE BEEN IN THE WATER? TO THINK THAT I'M SWIMMING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT
AHH - I FEEL ALIVE AGAIN - AFTER A BIT OF REST, I'LL GO SWIMMING AGAIN♡
PLIP

.....
NOT. THERE?

Куаааа!!

SFX: KER-CHAK
(CAMERA CLICKING NOISE)

AFTER A SERIES OF EVENTS INVOLVING THIS AND THAT... THINGS TURNED OUT LIKE THIS?
NOD
...SO.
...LET ME ASK ONE LAST TIME ARE YOU REALLY A GIRL?
IF YOU STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT, SHOULD I JUST SHOW YOU ONCE MORE?

DAMNIT!
THIS MAKES NO SENSE! THERE ARE NO BREASTS! AND NO BREASTS! YOU HAVE NO BREASTS!! WHAT PART OF THAT FLAT BOARD CAN YOU CLAIM AS FEMININE!?
EVEN MY CHEST IS BIGGER, FOR GOODNESS SAKES!! WHY DON'T YOU JUST SAY YOU'RE A HERMAPHRODITE, YEAH, YOU'RE A HERMAPHRODITE, RIGHT? A FLAT BOARD LIKE YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE A WOMAN, NEVER!
YOU THINK I WANTED TO BE BORN WITH A SMALL CHEST!? SO THEY'RE SMALL, OKAY!! I FEEL VICTIMIZED TOO! AND WHAT? HERMAPHRODITE!? THE NERVE!!
IN WAKA, I WORE PANTS YET EVERYBODY RECOGNIZED ME AS A GIRL! THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME EVEN WHEN I WORE A DRESS WAS YOU, ALONE!
MASTER, YOU HAVE THE EYESIGHT OF A PLANT, RIGHT? I KNEW IT! AND YOU DON'T HAVE SO MUCH AS A TEASPOON'S WORTH OF MANNERS!
IF YOU SAW A 14-YEAR OLD GIRL'S BODY IN THE NUDE, AT LEAST HAVE THE DECENCY TO APOLOGIZE!
YEAH RIGHT!! IF I GET EXCITED BY A WASHBOARD, THAT'S NOT A HUMAN, THAT'S A WEIRD 'BEVERT'! DAMNIT! AND I WAS BEING SO NICE TO YOU BECAUSE I THOUGHT I'D GOTTEN A YOUNGER BROTHER... JUST WHAT DOES THAT MAKE MY ACTIONS UP UNTIL NOW!?
SUMMARY
TIME TO GET UP, LAZY BONES. NO TIME FOR SLEEPING IN.
ACTIONS UP UNTIL NOW...
YOU'RE MINE

Blush
EH?
.....
...MASTER...?

YOU'RE NOT [EMBARRASSED~♡] ARE YOU?
SNEER
SH-SHUT UP!! IF YOU SAY ONE MORE WORD, I'LL KILL YOU!!
OH MY! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID ANYONE EXCITED ABOUT A WASHBOARD IS A WEIRD PERVERT! SO THAT MAKES YOU A PERVERT~♡
AAAARG!! IMA KILL YOU!! WHEN DID I!? STOP RIGHT THERE!!
OI! HARU SHIN!! STOP RIGHT THERE, DAMNIT! GRR! WHY YOU!!
GET BACK TO THE CAMPFIRE! HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE ANYWAYS? YOU TROUBLE-MAKER!
I FOLLOWED THE FIREFLIES THEY LED ME HERE AND DISAPPEARED

FIREFLIES? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I COULDN'T SLEEP BEFORE, BUT THEY WERE FLYING AROUND NEAR THE CAMPFIRE, SO I FOLLOWED THEM ALL THE WAY TO THE LAKE
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN
KUYA?
MASTER!! WHAT'S WRONG?
THOSE AREN'T FIREFLIES!
THEY'RE DEMONS!!

.....
WE'RE TOO LATE

!!
W-WHAT? MIRU AND CHIAKI ARE GONE! KUYA! WHAT ON EARTH-!!
...IT'S THE WORK OF A MOAKU
MOAKU ARE CARNIVOROUS DEMONS THAT USE LIGHTS TO LURE PEOPLE OR ANIMALS BY NIGHT, BUT THEY CAMOUFLAGE THEMSELVES BY DAY. SLEEPING HUMANS ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO THEIR CONTROL, SO THEY BECOME THE MOAKU'S FOOD BEFORE THEY KNOW IT. THEY'RE VICIOUS THINGS. DAMN, LAST TIME WE CAME THERE WEREN'T ANY MOAKU, BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE CREATURE IS NOW HIDING OUT IN THE TUMINYA.
.....
OVER THERE!!

THANK GOD! THEY HAVEN'T GOTTEN FAR YET!!
!!
MIRU!!
CHIAKI!!

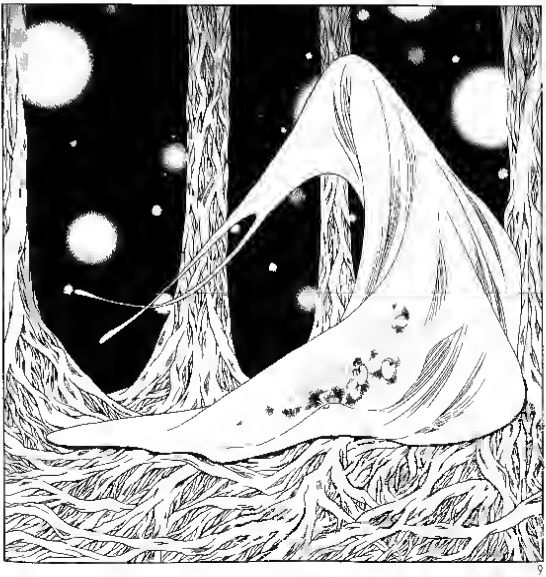
SFX: LEAP

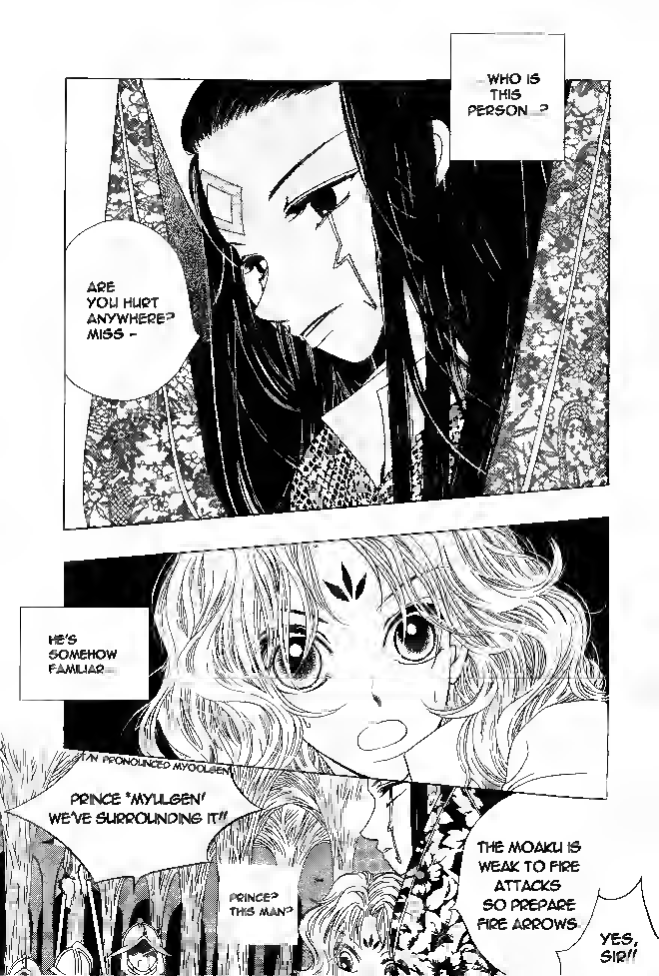
AHAHAHA
HARU!!
SFX: STAB

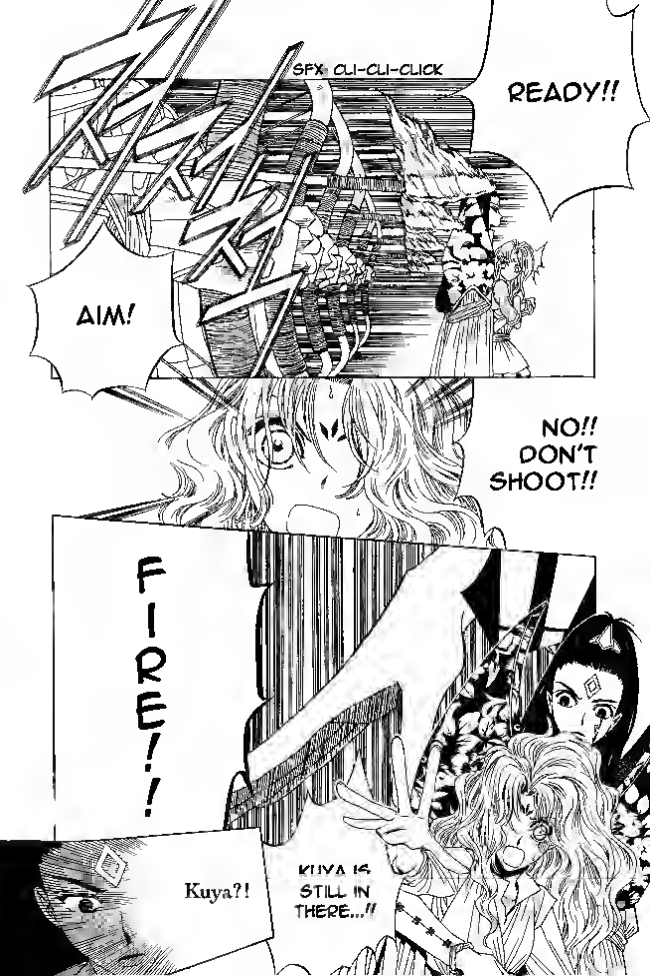
YOU'RE QUITE THE RECKLESS YOUNG WOMAN, AREN'T YOU? PLACES LIKE THESE ARE DANGEROUS... DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
NOW, PLEASE COME AND STAND BEHIND ME.

THE MOAKU

AN AMORPHOUS DEMON WITH POWERFUL MIND CONTROL
NORMALLY ASLEEP IN THE SAND DURING THE DAY, IT
ROUSES AT NIGHT AND SENDS OUT BEWITCHING LIGHTS
TO LURE NEARBY ANIMALS AND DEVOUR THEM.
IT HAS MIND CONTROL POWERFUL ENOUGH TO EVEN LURE
SLEEPING HUMANS.
WITH A LARGE BODY AND A GLUTTONOUS APPETITE THAT
CAN SWALLOW UP TO 50 HUMANS, AND THUS THERE HAS
EVEN BEEN A CASE OF IT MASSACRING A SMALL VILLAGE
DIGESTING ITS FOOD WHOLE, AFTER IT DINES, IT SLEEPS
FOR UP TO 10 YEARS
IT'S FAVORITE FOOD IS HUMANS.
IT IS WEAK TO ATTACKS OF FIRE.




...WHO IS THIS PERSON...?
ARE YOU HURT ANYWHERE? MISS -
HE'S SOMEHOW FAMILIAR...
(AN PRONOUNCED MYOOLGEN)
PRINCE 'MYULGEN' WE'VE SURROUNDING IT!!
PRINCE? THIS MAN?
THE MOAKU IS WEAK TO FIRE ATTACKS SO PREPARE FIRE ARROWS
YES, SIR!!


SFX: CLI-CLI-CLICK
READY!!
AIM!
NO!! DON'T SHOOT!!
FIRE!!
Kuya?!
KUYA IS STILL IN THERE...!!

SFX: SHUUUU
슈우우우
SWISH
122

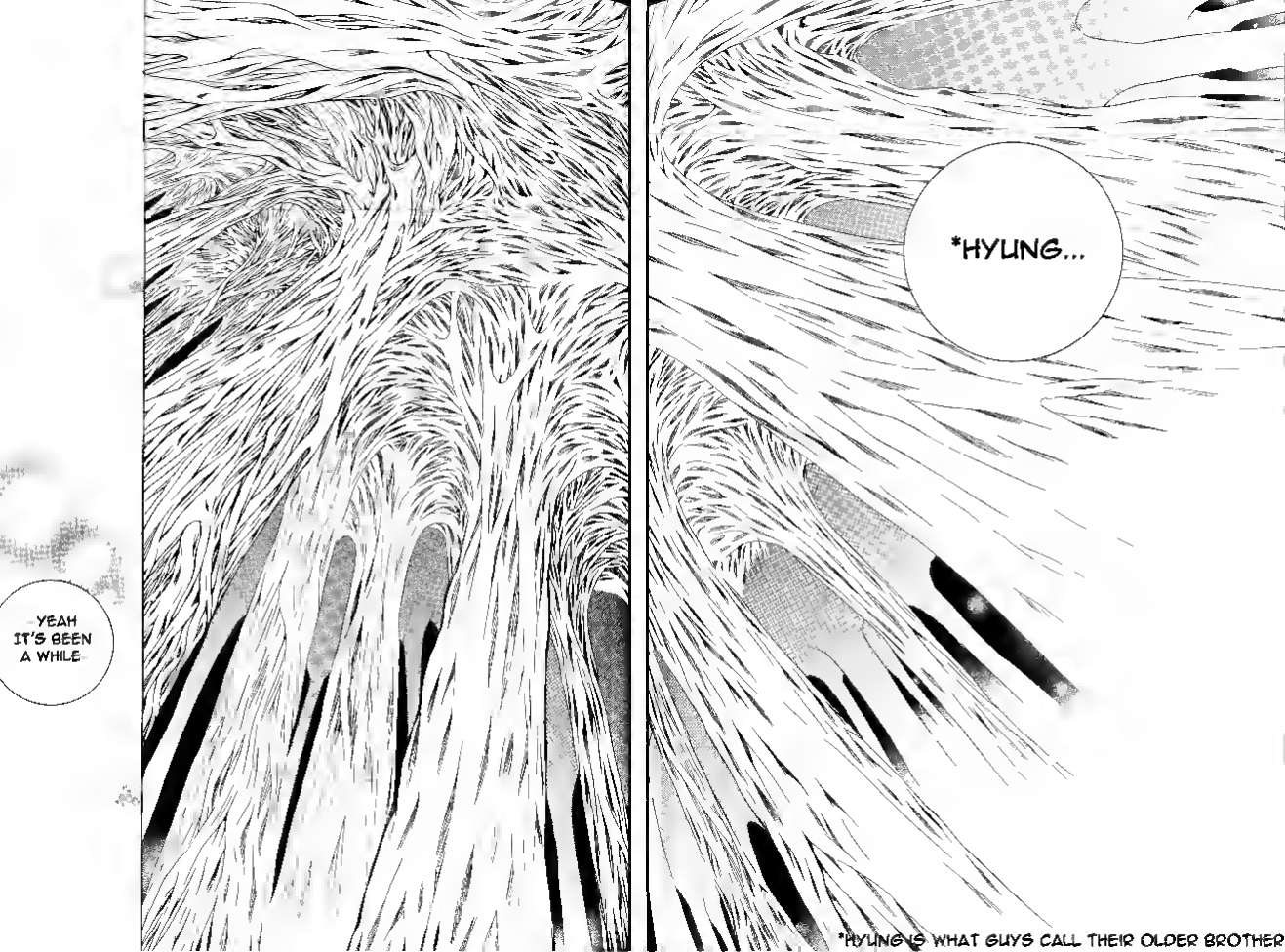
CHIAKI!! MIRU!!
ARE YOU GUYS OKAY?
N..... NNN.....
DASH
M-MIRU!! ARE YOU OKAY? PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!!
MIRU AND CHIAKI WERE SAVED BUT KUYA...
KUYA IS...!!
KUYA!!
123

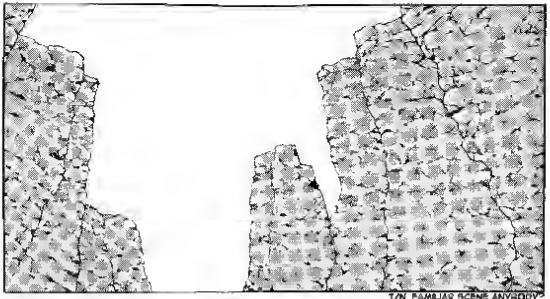
SFX: SQUELCH
THAT DEMON!! HOW D..RE IT SWALLOW ME!!
DAMN! THE FLUID EVEN GOT INTO MY MOUTH!!
MASTER♡
EK! WH-WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
PTEH
I THOUGHT YOU'D DIED! *SOB SOB*
W-WHY WOULD I DIE! GET OFF OF ME!

THAT PRINCE SAVED CHIAKI AND MIRU
...TAMAUR?

MYULGEN...
IS IT REALLY YOU,, TAMAUR?

HA...
YOU'RE ALIVE!!!
TAMAUR. THANK GOODNESS
YOU WERE ALIVE AFTER ALL.
MYULGEN


YEAH IT'S BEEN A WHILE
*HYUNG...
*HYUNG IS WHAT GUYS CALL THEIR OLDER BROTHER

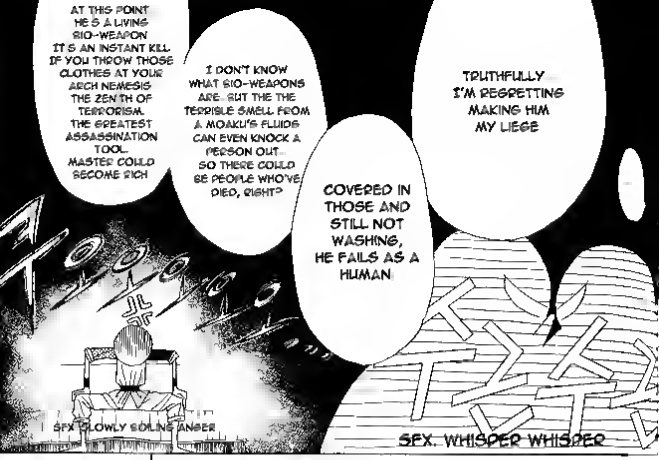


T/N: FAMILIAR SCENE ANYBODY? LIKE VOLUME 1 PG 141...

I'M A PRINCE.
WE'D FIGURED OUT THAT MUCH FOR OURSELVES!!
OH MY GOD... LORD KUYA WAS A PRINCE!! UNTIL NOW, I TREATED HIM LIKE CRAP!! &-BUT NOW I SERVE HIM AS MY MASTER...
WHAT DO I DO! KUYA WAS ROYALTY!? UP TIL NOW, I ACTED JUST ANY WAY I LIKED!! &-BUT HE WOULDN'T MISTREAT HIS OWN SLAVE, RIGHT?

LORD KUYA! BELIEVE ME! IT WASN'T ON PURPOSE!!
WE DON'T WANT TO DIE!!!
WHAT DO YOU TAKE ME FOR?
...YOU WON'T DIE!
OH, THIS HAS GOOD COLORING.
IT'S A BIT... NO, A REALLY STUFFY COUNTRY, BUT IT'S NOT THAT SILLY OF A LAND THAT'LL EXECUTE PEOPLE JUST FOR BEING A BIT RUDE TO AN EXILED PRINCE.
...EXILED?
SO BE AS RUDE AS YOU LIKE. I'VE LONG SINCE THROWN AWAY MY STATUS.
POP
HMM... AS EXPECTED, IT'S RIPE.
KUYA...

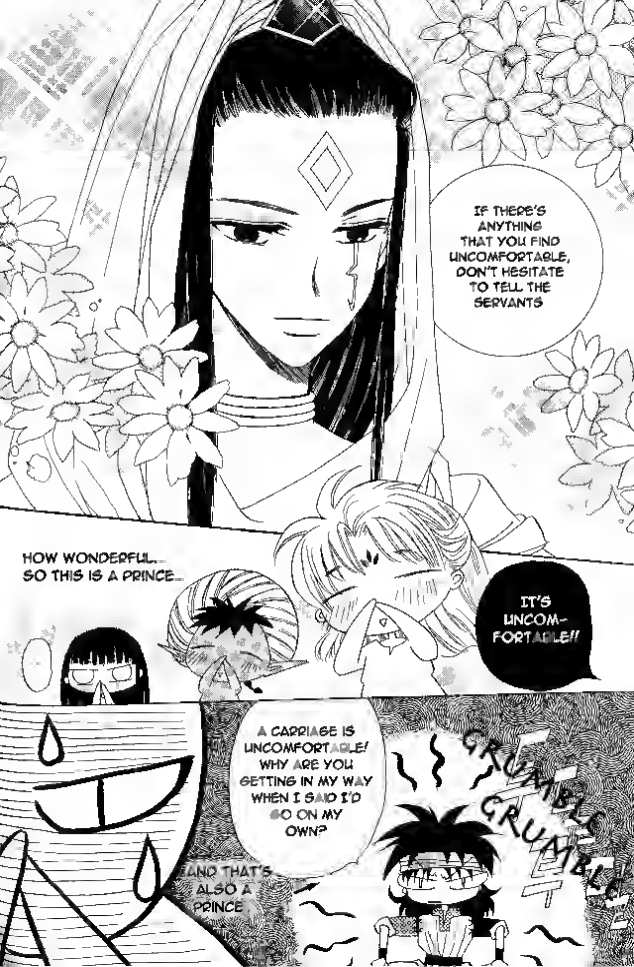
...THEN
MASTER
CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES!!
ACK!! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!! THIS TERRIBLE ODOR-!!!!!
HOW CAN A HUMAN POSSIBLY SMELL LIKE THIS? I FEEL LIKE MY NOSE IS GONNA FALL OFF!
WE'RE SAYING THAT WE'RE MORE SENSITIVE THAN YOU! LORD KUYA PLEASE DO SOMETHING EVEN SKUNKS AND EGGS THAT HAVE BEEN ROTTING FOR MONTHS WOULDN'T SMELL AS MALODOROUS AS YOU!
WHY YOU!! S-SHUT UP!!!!


AT THIS POINT HE'S A LIVING BIO-WEAPON IT'S AN INSTANT KILL IF YOU THROW THOSE CLOTHES AT YOUR ARCH NEMESIS THE ZENITH OF TERRORISM THE GREATEST ASSASSINATION TOOL MASTER COULD BECOME RICH
I DON'T KNOW WHAT BIO-WEAPONS ARE. BUT THE THE TERRIBLE SMELL FROM A MOAKU'S FLUIDS CAN EVEN KNOCK A PERSON OUT SO THERE COULD BE PEOPLE WHO'VE DIED, RIGHT?
COVERED IN THOSE AND STILL NOT WASHING, HE FAILS AS A HUMAN
TRUTHFULLY I'M REGRETTING MAKING HIM MY LIEGE
TOOYOO
SFX: SLOWLY SOLING ANGER
SFX: WHISPER WHISPER

DAMNIT!! JUST STOP! YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR!!
THE ONE THAT'S GONE TOO FAR IS YOU!! AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A HUMAN!?
JUST WHY EXACTLY ARE YOU BEING SO STUBBORN? PRINCE MYULLEEN HAS EVEN GIVEN YOU NICE CLOTHES TO CHANGE INTO!!

...IT CAN'T BE BECAUSE YOU DON'T LIKE THE PATTERN?
SHUT UP! DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD!!
WHAT? IT W S REALLY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T LIKE THE CLOTHES? TO THINK THAT MASTER HAD THIS CUTE SIDE TO HIM! HOW AMAZING!! THIS IS THE WORLD'S MOST WONDEROUS DISCOVERY!!
JUST WHAT IS THERE TO NOT LIKE ABOUT THE CLOTHES? IT'S A GRAND PATTERN!
SHUT UP!! IMA SEW YOUR MOUTH SHUT IF YOU SAY ANOTHER WORD!!!

I'D RATHER GIVE OFF THE MOAKU'S FLUID SMELL FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE THAN WEAR THOSE CRAZY DROOPY CLOTHES!
MAYBE YOU THINK THAT WAY, BUT OUR NOSES CAN'T STAND IT ANYMORE! CHANGE RIGHT NOW!!
IT'S JUST A FLOWER PATTERN! YOU'RE EMBARRASSED AT THE ODDEST THINGS, AREN'T YOU, MY LIEGE?
HAHAHA - WHAT A BOISTEROUS BUNCH
IT'S GOOD THAT YOU SEEM HEALTHY - ARE THEY ALL YOUR FRIENDS?
AH...
AH, NO NEED TO GET UP, LADIES.
PRINCE MYULGEN!!


IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT YOU FIND UNCOMFORTABLE, DON'T HESITATE TO TELL THE SERVANTS
HOW WONDERFUL... SO THIS IS A PRINCE...
IT'S UNCOM-FORTABLE!!
A CARRIAGE IS UNCOMFORTABLE! WHY ARE YOU GETTING IN MY WAY WHEN I SAID I'D GO ON MY OWN?
AND THAT'S ALSO A PRINCE
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE

.....
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED YOUR CLOTHES, TAMAUR
I KNOW YOU DISLIKE NOBLES' CLOTHING BUT IN THE CITY PLEASE KEEP TO THE ETIQUETTE
KUYA!

MY NAME IS KUYA.
MERCENARY KUYA.
IT'S NOT SOME REFINED NAME LIKE TAMAUR!

IF THAT'S THE CASE, YOU'VE COME BACK AT A VERY DELICATE TIME.

I THOUGHT YOU HAD HEARD THE RUMORS AND HAD COME TO CLAIM YOUR BIRTHRIGHT
TAMAUR

OH OH OH
THE KING. OUR ELDER BROTHER, IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION.
SFX: CHEERING

MY YOUNGER BROTHER, THE RIGHTFUL HEIR TO THE THRONE...
WELCOME TO THE KING'S CITY, [PAIRU] OF THE DESERT!!

The sky of the first night.
The two moons.

The Silver Ashas.
The Gold Ahir.

The land of the first night.
Song of sand and wind.

Waka of Gold sand,
Sawaka of Crimson sand.

Rumirya of the ground.
Rok of the sky.

And the pale blue moon that
followed the wanderer.

Flora bloomed from the steps he took
and springs burst forth from his
worn birch staff, creating cities.

Pairu, the eternal
city of spirits.

Kin and kin must unite
to stop Waka and Sawaka.

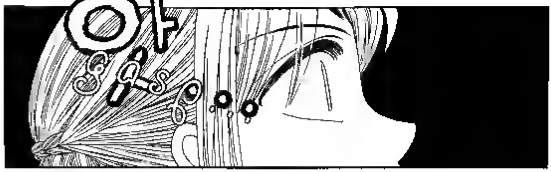
Now that the
song of the three moons
has started.

SFX: CHEERING SOUNDS
MYULGEN! LONG LIVE PRINCE MYULGEN-!!
LONG LIVE THE DEMON HUNTER! WIPE THEM OFF THE FACE OF RUDIMNA!
WOW...

PRINCE MYULGEN!!
EVERYONE MUST RESPECT YOU, PRINCE MYULGEN. ALL THOSE PEOPLE ARE CALLING JUST YOUR NAME
LORD MYULGEN MUST BE POPULAR
MAMA – THAT'S NOT IT. THEY'RE JUST GREETING THE SOLDIERS BACK FROM DEMON HUNTING. THEY'RE JUST SHOUTING MY NAME BECAUSE I'M IN CHARGE.
SO DIZZY
OH? I DON'T THINK THAT'S TRUE!
AND THIS IS JUST A FEELING, BUT I'M SURE YOU MAKE A GOOD LEADER♡
OF COURSE. WHEN A JOB SUCCEEDS... THE PERSON IN CHARGE RECEIVES THE PRAISE, BUT PRINCE, YOUR ARMY IS WELL ORGANIZED AND THE SOLDIERS' FACES ARE BRIGHT.
THAT MEANS THE DISCONTENT IS AT A MINIMUM, AND THE CREDIT IS WELL DISTRIBUTED. I LEARNED THAT A LEADER THAT IS SKILLED AT ACTING BEHIND THE SCENES IS RESPECTED.
...IT SEEMS LIKE YOU ARE FROM A REFINED FAMILY.
EH?

YOU POSSESS A LOGICAL WAY OF SPEECH AND THE AGILITY TO READ A SITUATION WELL. I AM RELIEVED THAT A PERSON SUCH AS YOU IS NEAR TAMAUR
N-NO! YOU'RE GIVING ME TOO MUCH CREDIT...
THEY'RE REALLY SIMILAR
WAS THAT TRULY FORESIGHT?
THE STRANGE MAN I SAW AT MY HOMETOWN IF THAT WAS REALLY PRINCE MYULGEN...
MAYBE -

I...
CAME TO THIS WORLD JUST IN ORDER TO MEET THIS MAN...



WHAT AM I THINKING...
THEN YOU ARE HEADED FOR THE TRIBE ASSEMBLY?
YES. OUR RINGA TRIBE IS A SMALL VILLAGE. SO THINGS WILL BE DIFFICULT IF WE MAKE ENEMIES OF WAKA
WE'RE BUYING THE VILLAGE NECESSITIES FROM THEIRS TOO
HM... IF THAT'S THE CASE...
KUYA...
HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT AFTER HE'D HEARD ABOUT HIS OLDER BROTHER THE KING.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN KUYA SO SERIOUS HE MUST HAVE REALLY LIKED HIS OLDER BROTHER

WOULD MIRU BE SAD AS WELL?
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO ME
...NOW PATHETIC. WHAT AM I THINKING ABOUT.
SINCE KUYA'S LIKE THAT, AT LEAST I HAVE TO BE OPTIMISTIC...

AAAAAAACK!!!
MOVE!!!!!!!!!!!!
CRASH
UWAAAA!
A DEMON!
A DEMON HAS ATTACKED LORD MYULGEN'S CARRIAGE!
HURRY! THE DEMON'S ESCAPING! CATCH HIM NOW!!

SFX: SHUUU
AARG!! GET OUT! JUST PLEASE LISTEN TO ME! I'M YOUR OWNER FOR GOODNESS' SAKES!!!
STOP! I'M TELLING YOU, STOP!
SFX: GRAB
CHYAA!!

BOOM
AH...?
ALRIGHT!! NOW ESCAPE!!

ARGGG

HE HAS SAVED MY LIFE!!
WHY ARE YOU SCOLDING HIM WHEN YOU SHOULD ALL BE THANKING HIM ON BENDED KNEE?
LORD "DUNA BUT THIS MAN IS OBVIOUSLY OF A LOWER STATION
DO NOT INSULT MY SAVIOR!!
T/N "DUNA PRONOUNCED/DYOONA, AND BELOW, DUWARK IS DYOOWARK
...DUNA DUWARK MAIRAMA?
...DO YOU KNOW ME?
HOW IMPUDENT! HOW DARE YOU CALL LORD DUNA BY HIS GIVEN NAME!!
...I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU
I'D HEARD HE'D BEEN BORN,
BUT HAS HE ALREADY GROWN THIS MUCH?
...WHO ARE YOU?

ME?
TAMAHR!!
KUYA!! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
WELL, AS YOU CAN SEE...
I'M THE MERCENARY KUYA, FORMERLY KNOWN AS TAMAHR

IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET YOU, MY NEPHEW.

IT SEEMS LIKE THE OLD MEN WILL BE ABUZZ AGAIN
AAH – BECAUSE HE'S THE TRADITIONAL HEIR WHO'S APPEARED AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME. IT'S IN THE NATURE OF THOSE SENSITIVE TO TRADITION EVEN NOW, THEY'RE PROBABLY WAVERING BETWEEN WHAT'S TRADITIONAL AND WHAT'S BENEFICIAL TO THEM.
BUT I'M WORRIED BECAUSE TAMAUR IS NO PUSHOVER

..YOU SEEM TO BE ENJOYING YOURSELF.
AAH - BECAUSE THEY'RE CUTE KIDS
I FIND MY SMART YOUNGER BROTHER WHO THOUGH NOT IN A VERY REFINED MANNER, BUT DETERMINEDLY NONETHELESS CAST ASIDE HIS SEAT AS THE TRADITIONAL HEIR, VERY ENDEARING
THAT SAID, I FIND THE SON OF MY RESPECTED ELDER BROTHER, AND MY ONLY NEPHEW, CUTE AS WELL.
MY LOVABLE NEPHEW AND CUTE YOUNGER BROTHER...

WHO SHOULD I KILL FIRST?

2nd Prince Myulgen Havit Pairama

The 2nd Prince of Pairu (19 years old)

An erudite Prince with graceful manners yet magnificent swordsmanship skills. With such excellence, he recieves much support from both within Pairu and from the borderlands but born with a mother from the Beastman race, the Havit tribe. He has no claim to the throne. He enjoys poetry and songs, and with his claim to be the guardian of artists, is popular even among the commoners.

WELCOME, MY LORD PRINCE TAMAUR~
I AM CALLED YUMIR, THE HEAD LADY-IN-WAITING
I BID YOU WELCOME TO THE PALACE OF PAIRU

HIS MAJESTY AWAITS YOU AT THE BANQUET

THEN I BID
YOU REST WELL...

MASTER IS REALLY CONFIDENT IN THE MIDST OF ALL THIS...
WELL... HE'S PRESENTLY A [PRINCE]
AMAZING THEY'RE ALL BOWING 90° IN GREETING!
IT'S EMBARRASSING TO EVEN WALK -
BUT IT'S STILL AMAZING. I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A GRAND PALACE AND MAIDS I GUESS IT'S TRUE THAT THIS IS THE MOST AFFLUENT CITY IN ALL OF RUDIMNA -

AND ON TOP OF THAT, WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO MEET THE OWNER OF THIS PALACE, THE CHA-KUN....
THINK ABOUT IT! THE CHA-KUN! IT'S THE CHA-KUN!! I'M MEETING THE CHA-KUN!! UWAAA~~~ WHAT DO I DO? WHAT DO I DO? UWAAA~!!
CALM DOWN CHIAKI. EVEN IF HE IS A KING HE'S STILL HUMAN, WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN?
EH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? A HUMAN?
THE CHA-KUN IS A GOD. HE'S A LIVING GOD IN THE FLESH!!
chuckle

T/N: IT IS MANDATORY FOR ALL KOREAN MEN TO GO TO THE MILITARY

WHAT'S WITH THOSE LAUGHS? YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?
BUT IT'S FUNNY!! CALLING A HUMAN A GOD -
THEN DOES THAT MAKE KUYA THE 'SON OF GOD'? PUHAH! HE'LL BE EXEMPT FROM THE *MILITARY, AT LEAST-
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT'S YOU GUYS WHO DON'T KNOW ANYTHING EVEN IF YOU LIVED FAR FROM CIVILIZATION, HOW CAN YOU NOT KNOW THE CHA-KUN? ARE YOU GUYS FROM A DIFFERENT WORLD?
That's the right answer -
LONG AGO, PAIRU WAS A DRY DESERT THAT DIDN'T EVEN GROW A BLADE OF GRASS
THE ONE WHO TURNED THAT WASTELAND INTO AN AFFLUENT CITY THAT EVEN HAS A RIVER RUNNING THROUGH IT WAS THE KING OF PAIRU THE CHA-KUN

THEY ARE ROYALTY, GENERATION BY GENERATION, WITH THE ABILITY TO CALL WATER SPIRITS AND CREATE A PARADISE IN A DESERT.
EH? THEY MAKE WATER? YOU MEAN THEY'RE REALLY GOOD?
HE'S A HUMAN
A WEAK MAN CAPABLE OF MAKING MISTAKES AND FEELING JEALOUSY -

SO...
IT WON'T DO TO EXPECT TOO MUCH FROM HIM -
Mr. Ok.

Mission

Mission

Whisper
Whisper
Snicker
...I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO LOOK...
HO~ WHAT A UNIQUE MAN
COMING IN RAGS TO THE CHA-KUN'S DINNER BANQUET WHERE EVEN THE SERVANTS ARE CLAD IN BROCADE... ARE YOU SOMEONE'S SUBORDINATE? WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

...I AM NEITHER SUBORDINATE NOR DISTRICT NOBLE
OR SOME DISTRICT NOBLE COME TO SEEK CONNECTIONS?
I'M HERE ON GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
WHERE IS THE CHA-KUN?
TAMAUR

TAMAUR... WHAT A NOSTALGIC NAME
IS THAT NOT THE NAME OF A HELLION OF A YOUNGER BROTHER OF MINE WHO RAN OFF FROM THE PALACE?

I DIDN'T THINK THAT I'D BE SEEING YOU AGAIN...
TAMALIR MY DEAR YOUNGER BROTHER

CHA-KUN? THIS PERSON?
WOW - HOW GOOD LOOKING♡
SO THIS IS THE MAN WHO'S SUPPOSEDLY A LIVING GOD AND KUYA'S OLDER BROTHER?

WHAT ARE YOU, WHO RAN AWAY FROM THE PALACE, DOING HERE? IT CAN'T BE THAT YOU'D BE CUTE ENOUGH TO COME HERE JUST TO CELEBRATE MY BIRTHDAY? IF SO, WHAT AN HONOR.

...OR ARE YOU JUST A HYENA THAT CAME AT THE SMELL OF MEAT...

WELL WHICHEVER IT IS, WE HAVE MEAT ENOUGH TO FEED YOU! - SERVANT"
MY YOUNGER BROTHER'S DINNER IS TOO HUMBLE! BRING OUT THE FOOD"
Clap

OOH-!! THAT MAN IS THE INFAMOUS EXILED CROWN PRINCE TAMAUR?
TH-THAT'S GOING TOO FAR! THIS IS BEGGAR TREATMENT!!
KUKUK, JUST LOOK AT HIM! HE'S EVEN DIRTIER THAN MY LOWEST RANKING GUARDS! AND HE CALLS HIMSELF A PRINCE?
HE'S A PRINCE ALRIGHT A PRINCE OF PAUPERS!!

Gobble
Glug glug glug
Khah

IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYWAYS
IF YOU WANT TO INSULT ME, SO BE IT!

NOT LONG AGO, THERE WAS A COMMOTION INVOLVING DEMON IN WAKA. WORD HAS IT THAT IT WAS THE WORK OF THE RINGA TRIBE OF THE GIANTSMAN RACE.
AT THIS YEAR'S TRIBE MEETING, WAKA WILL BRING UP THIS MATTER AND INSIST ON OPPRESSING THE RINGA TRIBE.
L-LORD KUYA.
I'LL SAY IT PLAINLY, THAT WAS MY DOING.
I CALLED THE DEMON AND HAD IT SMASH UP WAKA BUT IT WAS A JUSTIFIED REVENGE! I DID IT TO TAKE BACK A SLAVE THAT WAKA HAD TAKEN FROM ME!!
KUYA...
SO THE RINGA TRIBE HAS NO RESPONSIBILITY OVER THIS MATTER! TELL WAKA THAT IF THEY MUST TAKE UP AN ISSUE WITH SOMEONE THEY SHOULD COME TO ME!!

.....
PING... TRICE... YOU SAY...

...THAT'S TO BE DECIDED AT THE TRIBE ASSEMBLY I MAY BE THE CHA-KUN BUT THIS IS NOT SOMETHING I CAN INTERFERE WITH
BUT YOU COULD ARBITRATE IT!!
I'VE ARRANGED A PLACE FOR YOU TO STAY I TRUST YOU WON'T LEAVE ON MY BIRTHDAY, TAMAUR
YOU ARE DISMISSED FOR NOW I AM... TIRED
CHE!
DAMNIT THOSE GUYS WILL TRY AND ROB THE CLOTHES OFF MY BACK
THERE'S NO EASY WAY OUT AH - IN THE END I HAVE TO FIGHT IT OUT WITH THOSE UPTIGHT MERCHANTS

IF ONLY WE HAD A WELL-SPOKEN ADVISOR
HE WOULD HAVE FOUGHT WITH TAMAUR AND SONE HOME IMMEDIATELY
BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS STAND ALONE AN ADVISOR WHO CAN TOLERATE WORKING UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS, WOULD BE WORTH CHANCELLOR MATERIAL
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, YOUR HIGHNESS♡

MASA?
MASA!!

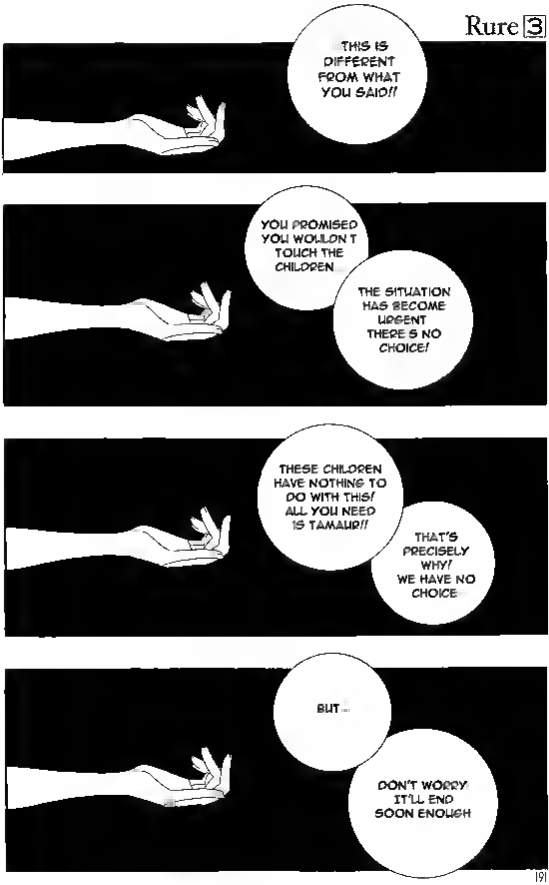
MASA!!
MASA!!
MASA!!!
I'M NOT DREAMING AM I!?
KYAH!! STOP IT, TAMAUR!! I'M GETTING DIZZY~
OH SILLY TAMAUR~

WHAT HAPPENED? I THOUGHT YOU'D ALREADY LEFT THE PALACE!!
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU, MASA! I REALLY AM!!
AH... THE CHA-KUN KINDLY ALLOWED ME TO STAY HERE
ME TOO, HIGHNESS.
BUT WHY DON'T YOU INTRODUCE ME TO THE LADIES BEHIND YOU FIRST?
Kuoooo
THEY'VE BEEN LOOKING AT ME WITH INCREDIBLY INTENSE EYES FOR A WHILE NOW

THE ROYAL CONCUBINE OF THE LATE KING?
OH MY♡ SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS♡ NO WONDER YOU'RE SO ELEGANT♡
OH MY! AREN'T YOU QUITE THE LADIES WITH EYES FOR SUCH THINGS♡ WELL I'M LIKE A MOTHER TO TAMAUR SO DON'T MIND ME♡
IT DID SEEM SOMEWHAT STRANGE♡
THAT'S RIGHT! A NOBLE LADY LIKE YOU DOESN'T SUIT THIS TROUBLEMAKER MASTER AT ALL♡
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU ALL TALKING ABOUT?

MASA BASICALLY RAISED ME! HOW CAN YOU MAKE THAT KIND OF MISUNDERSTANDING?
SORRY - SORRY -
YOU REALLY RESEMBLE THE LATE KING, TAMAUR
THAT PERSON WAS THE SAME FIERY AND PASSIONATE LIKE FIREWORKS WITH DARING DETERMINATION AND DISTINGUISHED ACTING POWER
YOU'RE JUST LIKE HIM, TAMAUR
BUT EMOTION WISE HE WAS DENSE. SO HE COULDN'T BEFRIEND PEOPLE EASILY HOWEVER, HE LIKED TO TRUST IN PEOPLE
MASA?

OTHERWISE, YOU WOULD NOT SO EASILY ACCEPT A DRINK FROM YOUR FOREBEAR'S CONCUBINE -
THUD


THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU SAID!!
YOU PROMISED YOU WOULDN T TOUCH THE CHILDREN
THE SITUATION HAS BECOME URGENT THERE S NO CHOICE!
THESE CHILDREN HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS! ALL YOU NEED IS TAMAUR!!
THAT'S PRECISELY WHY! WE HAVE NO CHOICE
BUT...
DON'T WORRY IT'LL END SOON ENOUGH

END OF VOLUME 3.
CONTINUED IN VOLUME 4.

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Whoever you are,
thank you.
IV
don't own these manga
unless you buy it to support the author
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RURE